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## COMPARATIVE TRANSLATION: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16.

A STUDY IN MODERNIZING THE ENGLISH BIBLE.

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Πᾶσα γραφὴ θεόπνευστος καὶ ὠφέλιμος πρὸς διδασκαλίαν, πρὸς ἐλεγμὸν,  
πρὸς ἐπανόρθωσιν, πρὸς παιδείαν τὴν ἐν δικαιοσύνῃ.

—*Westcott-Hort Greek Text*, 1881.

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All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

—*Authorized Version*, 1611.

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Every scripture inspired of God *is* also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness.

—*Revised Version (British Edition)*, 1881.

—*Revised Version (American Standard Edition)*, 1901.

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Everything that is written under divine inspiration is helpful for teaching, for refuting error, for giving guidance, and for training others in the path of duty.

—*Twentieth Century New Testament*, 1901.

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Every God-inspired writing is profitable for instruction, for consolation, for correction, and for training in righteousness.

—*Fenton, New Testament in Modern English*, 1901.

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Every scripture is inspired by God and good for teaching, for reproof, for amendment, for education in uprightness.

—*Moffatt, Historical New Testament*, 1901.

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Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for convincing, for correction of error, and for instruction in right doing.

—*Weymouth, Modern Speech New Testament*, 1903.

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Every scripture inspired by God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for the discipline which is in accord with the law of God.

—*Ballentine, American Bible*, 1901.

Since all Scripture is divinely inspired, it is useful for increasing our knowledge, for rebuking our sin, and for disciplining us in the religious life.

—*Stevens, Messages of the Bible, 1900.*

The several passages of the Old Testament, because the truth and power of God are in them, have great practical value for men: they furnish helpful moral and spiritual ideas, they show and rebuke one's shortcomings, they hold one to high ideals, and they develop true character and service.<sup>1</sup>

—BIBLICAL WORLD.

<sup>1</sup> The "Scripture" referred to is the Old Testament (*cf.* also the preceding verse); in the first century there was no established collection of Christian writings. *Πᾶσα γραφή* means this or that particular passage of the Old Testament, not the Old Testament in its entirety. *θεόπνευστος* is to be taken as attributive to *γραφῆ*, not as a predicate of *ἐστὶ* understood; *καὶ* has an "ascensive" force, which can be expressed in English only by a periphrase (not by translating it "and" or "also"). The main point of the verse is not that the Old Testament is inspired, but that it is practically useful. The inspiration was well known and unquestioned (*cf.* vs. 15). What Paul here asserts is that the writings of the Old Testament have a great practical value, of which men should avail themselves. Neither the extent of divine inspiration, nor its mode, nor the limits of the Old Testament canon, nor the relative amount of practical value in the different portions of the Hebrew Scriptures, is discussed in the verse. The passage therefore does not furnish the answer to such questions.